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SUPPLEMENT.

May, 1887.

THE FOWL IN THE SPANISH PRO- VERB AND METAPHOR.

Valuable as is Brinkmann's work, 'Die Metaphern. Studien über den Geist der modernen Sprachen. Bd. I. Die Thierbilder der Sprache,' as the first attempt at collecting and classifying the metaphors of modern languages, it is far from complete. Nor could it well be otherwise. For, on the one hand, in the almost total absence of preparatory special treatises, the field is too vast for one man to survey and to exhaust, while on the other hand the author in gathering the material for his work contented himself with consulting for the Spanish, for instance, the Dictionary of the Spanish Academy, Oudin's collection of proverbs and Cervantes' Don Quijote; a method of study which could not give him even an approximate idea of the range of Spanish metaphor. Until the whole ground of each language shall have been fully and systematically worked up by special treatises, no attempt at a comprehensive and reliable presentation of the subject can be made with any hope of success.

It is with the purpose of pointing out and in a measure filling up the gaps in Brinkmann's chapter on the fowl (l. c. pp. 513—574), and more particularly on the chicken, that I have arranged here such material as has collected in the course of my reading and as is offered by the Dictionaries, chiefly that of the Academy. (For a few additions to Brinkmann's book, cf. Am. Journal of Phil., vol. VI. pp. 74-79). Unless otherwise stated, the illustrations are quoted from Rivadeneyra's 'Biblioteca de Autores Españoles' and from the Diccionario de la Academia Española (1884).

I.—GALLO.

1. The cock is proverbial for his crow, which may be indicative of time, of an omen or of utterance or noise in general. (cf. Grimm, D. M. III. 4 192). In former times, the cock's crow was an important help in ascertaining and fixing time, as appears among other things from the stories of boundary-disputes in which it was agreed upon as the signal for the de-

parture of the competitors. (cf., for instance, Grimm, Kl. Schriften, II. 70-74). In the proverbial expressions of time surviving and recording such conditions, the cock figures not only as "the trumpet of morn," as one would infer from Brinkmann's remarks, but also as the herald of midnight and of sunset. Thus, Alcalá says in his 'Donado Hablador': la *media noche*, reloj certísimo para *los gallos*.

a) *Midnight*:

Los monges que madurgan a *los gallos primeros*,
Trasayunar non pueden como otros obreros. S. Dom. 458.
Cerca era *de gallos*, media noche troçada. S. Dom. 652.
Media noche era por filo
Los gallos querian cantar,
Cuando entraba por Toledo
Por Toledo, esa ciudad:
Antes que el gallo cantase,
A Consuegra fué á llegar. Wolf y Hofm., P. y F. de Rom.,
I. 227 et seq.; cf. l. c., II. 150, 248, 358.

So also in Portuguese: Antes *de o gallo primeiro*. Hardung, Rom., II. 182.

The midnight-mass is called *misa del gallo*.

b) *Day-break*:

Ca a mouer a Myo Cyd ante *que cante el gallo*. P. C., 169.
En San Pero de Cardena y nos *cante el gallo*, l. c., 209 (let
us get there before dawn).
Apriessa *cantan los gallos* e quieren quebrar albores. l. c., 235.
A la mannana quando *los gallos cantaran*, l. c., 316.

Et porqué *al hora del gallo* et non á otro tiempo. Libro de los Estados, p. 351.

Otrosí la razon por qué nació á la hora que *cantó el gallo*, parece á mí que es esta. l. c. p. 352.

Cerca era *de gallos* quando fizo tornada. Mil., 742.
Aun *ora de gallos* era por uenir. Alex., 2290.
A *los medianos gallos* piensan de cavalgar. P. C., 324. cf.
l. c., 1701.

Portuguese: Horas *de o gallo cantar*. Hardung, Rom., I. 7; cf. l. c., I. 223; II. 121, 126.

From the Italian and French, such expressions as *al canto del gallo* and *dès le chant du coq* are familiar.

As "the trumpet of the morn" the cock figures not unfrequently in Latin: Sub galli cantum, Hor., Sat., I. 1, 10; ad cantum galli secundi. Juv., IX. 107; nondum cristati rupere silentia galli. Mart., IX. 68, 3; noctis gallicinio venit quidam juvenis. Apul., Met. 8, 1.

The cock is also proverbial for flapping his wings:

Començaron las *alas los gallos a feryr*,
Leuantaron-se todos, misa fueron a oyr. P.C. Fern. Gonz., 483.

c) *Sunset*:

Ya *el gallo* con su canto y alarido
Denunciaba á los míseros humanos
El nuevo declinar del sol ausente
Hácia el ocaso bajo y nuestro oriente. La Austriada, c. II.

The phrase, *entre gallos y media noche*, is equivalent to *á deshora* in the sense of untimely.

In connection with the above expressions of time may be mentioned here *en ménos que canta un gallo*, something like the English: In less time than you can say Jack Robinson.

Las guerrillas eran despachadas por las nuestras *en ménos que canta un gallo*. Galdós, Zaragoza, c. 8.

As the cock's crow heralds the coming day, it is also supposed to announce coming events.

Under this head may be classed the phrase, *otro gallo me (te, le, etc.) cantara*, which means: my lot would be better, I should fare better.

Pluguiese á Dios que vuestro amo no viniese, y que á vos os diese gana de quedaros en casa, que á fe que *otro gallo os cantase* porque el mozo que se me fué vino á mi casa habrá ocho meses roto y flaco, y ahora lleva dos pares de vestidos muy buenos y va gordo como una nutria. La ilustre Fregona, p. 224 (ed. Brockh.); cf. also D. Q. II. 70, and Donado Hablador, p. 506.

A warning and censure of indiscreetness lies in the saying: al gallo que canta le aprietan la garganta, while on the other hand cowardly silence is the theme of the *refran*: gallo que no canta, algo tiene en la garganta.

Of those who do not fully understand what they hear, whose information is therefore unreliable, the Spaniard says: Oyó al gallo cantar, y no supo en qué lugar (muladar), to which compare the synonymous expression: Como muchos lo tienen hoy, que oyen campanas sin saber quiza donde suenan. Fer. Cab., Fam. de Alv., p. 38 (ed. Brockh.) and the German: Er hat läuten gehört, weiss aber nicht wo die glocken hängen.

The cock's crow is figurative for noise or disturbance:

Quedaría sosegado
Todo el tu gran imperio
Que *no te cantase gallo*. Wolf y Hofm., l. c., II. 351.

The Italian cuts off an annoying discussion or inquiry with the remark: Cantò il gallo e fu di. Tommaseo, Diz.

2. The cock is proverbial for his pride and overbearing, as also for being the king of the feathered tribe. (cf. Brinkmann, l. c. pp. 517—521).

Yo me figuré que era el *rey de los gallos* y el que llevaba la gula. Guzm. de Alf., p. 232.

Engreído como gallo en el cortijo, to be as haughty as the cock in the farm-house.

Alzar, ó levantar uno el gallo, to treat others haughtily:

Haya paz, y *no levante* ninguno *el gallo*. Galdós, Nap. en Cham., c. 8.

So also *alzar ó levantar la cresta*, as in Latin: Et tamen illi surgebant cristae. Juv., IV. 70; cristam promittere galli. l. c., XIII. 233. Italian: A testa ritta come un gallo. Giusti. Quedar como gallo de morón means to be defeated or mocked, and the phrase: como el gallo de morón, cacareando y sin pluma, refers, according to the Academy's Dictionary, to those "que conservan algún orgullo, aunque en la pendencia ó negocio en que se metieron queden vencidos."

El gallo y el gavilan no se quejan por la presa, sino porque es su ralea, expresses the same idea as *no por el huevo, sino por el fuero*, applied to quarrelsome people.

Holgad, gallinas, que el gallo está en vendimias (or: que muerto es el gallo) corresponds to our saying: when the cat is away, the mice begin to play.

Blanco y rubio por extremo
Esclarecido en linaje,
El gallo de las bravatas,
La gala de los donaires.
Romance (Hita, 'Guerras Civiles,' p. 524).

Al capon que se hace gallo, azotallo, censures presumption.

Metí gallo en 'mi cillero, hízose mi hijo y mi heredero, refers to those who abuse privileges.

The idea of overbearing is also contained in the phrases *andar de gallo* and *correr un gallo* to pass the night merry-making.

El mozo y el gallo, un año, advises not to keep them too long.

Italian: *Essere il gallo della checca* dicesi

di chi s'innamora d'ogni donna che vede; di chi vuol essere l'Adone di tutte le belle. Rigutini-Fanfani.

The Spanish *gallito* is the equivalent of the English cockcomb.

3. The cock is proverbial for his slow walk and for the air of caution which he often assumes:

El paso de un gallo means a single, short step, a short stretch.

Mira, el mundo marcha muy despacio. En cada siglo suele adelantar *el paso de un gallo*, si no retrocede. E. Castelar, Sant. el Pos., c. 4.

So also the Italian *passo di gallo*: Mi troverò questa state in loco che di lì a Prazzuola è un *passo di gallo*. Bern. XXVI. lett. 66 (quoted by Tommaseo).

Ir á escucha gallo means to proceed, to go with caution.

4. The cock is toothless.

Hence the phrase *muélas de gallo* means no teeth, or very poor teeth, to which compare the English "shad's ears."

Cuando los gallos tengan dientes, is synonymous with cuando méen las gallinas and para la semana que no tenga viernes, all of which expressions mean "never."

5. An insignificant, harmless act is compared to the pecking of the cock.

Firme estido Achilles, non dulto de esperarlo, Non dió por él mas que *sil picás un gallo*. Alex., 637.

6. The cock's leg is the picture of awkwardness and clumsiness, from which fact is derived the phrase: salir con pata de gallo, to speak unadvisedly, sillily.

From its form, the *pata de gallo* has received the metaphorical meaning of the wrinkle that forms in the outer corner of the eye and which is considered a sign of old age.

7. A number of objects are named after the crest to which they bear some resemblance.

Thus *cresta* means a) the crest of other birds, b) the crest of mountains, c) of the covert-way, d) of a helmet, and e) a cramp-iron. *Cresta de gallo* is a popular name for the amaranth (cf. pavo), just as *meierhahnenkamm* in German.

II.—GALLINA.

1. Chickens are valued for yielding superior food, and hence are proverbial as marks of wealth and good fortune. (cf. Brinkmann, l. c. pp. 539—541).

Y deredes á Dário; esto sea ayna,
Que quando non auia Philippo fijo enna reyna,
Poniage *ouos doro siempre vna gallina*;
Quando nasció el fijo *morió la gallina*. Alex. 130.

Comian de su cabra ó cabron como si fuera de una bien manida y *gruesa gallina*. Alcalá; El Don. Hablador, p. 547. cf. p. 560. In contrast to this, *oveja*, the sheep, seems to be looked upon as a mark of poverty and of ill-luck. Compare for instance a passage like the following: Nuestra comida ordinaria es un poco de oveja en cecina con algunas migas. Don. Hablador, p. 496.

La gallina de mi vecina más gorda está que la mía, or: más huevos pone que la mía.

Viva la gallina, aunque sea con su pepita (D. Q. II. 5) is synonymous with: mas vale sufrir que morir.

For want of a better place, the following two expressions with *gallo* may be mentioned here: Daca el gallo, toma el gallo, quedan las plumas en la mano, which informs us that valuable things may be spoiled or ruined by too much handling.

El que solo come su gallo, solo ensilla su caballo, is a warning to the selfish.

Pollo de enero, á San Juan es comedero, is synonymous with: Pollo de enero, cada pluma vale un dinero, to which may be compared the following:

Mesquino e magrillo no hay mas carne en él
Que en *pollo enverniso despues de San Miguel*. J. Roiz, 803.

Allá se lo haya Marta con sus pollos, reprehends meddling with other people's affairs. Esteb. Gonzalez, p. 300.

Los pollos de Marta piden pan, y dales agua Marta la piadosa. Cov. Tesoro.

Voló el pollo means that a cherished hope has gone. Cf. voló el golondrino.

Gallina is found coupled with *capon* as an expression for an abundant table:

Pregunté que cena habia;
Dos gallinas y un capon:
Las gallinas para las damas,
Y el capon para el señor. Romania, XIII. 150.

So in Portuguese:

Levára—a p'ra sua sala,
Com gallinhas e capões:
Nada de comer faltava. Hardung, Rom., II. 115.
Mandou-lhe fazer a ceia
De capão e de galinha. l. c., 160.

Here belong finally the Italian proverb: La

gallina vecchia fa buon brodo, and the well-known French sentence credited to Henry IV.: *Je veux que le dimanche chaque paysan ait sa poule au pot.*

The egg is the subject of many proverbial expressions referring to its value, its form or other qualities.

Hispe el huevo bien batido, como la mujer con el buen marido, which puts forth "las dichas que alcanza una mujer con un buen marido." (Dicc. Acad.).

Sobre un huevo pone la gallina. D. Q., II. 7.

No es por el huevo, sino por el fuero. Fer. Cab., Clem., p. 89. This applies to those who do not fight for some advantage, but for the mere love of quarrel. (cf. gallo).

Dar con los huevos en la ceniza, to spoil one's chances, to lose one's advantage.

Me sucedió una disgracia en mi aplaudido y celebrado fogon, con que dí *con los huevos en la ceniza*. Esteb. Gonzalez, p. 293.

Aborrecer uno los huevos, means to allow one's self to be deterred from some good work undertaken.

Sórbete ese huevo, expresses satisfaction at the disadvantage suffered by another, and may be compared to our saying: Put that in your pipe and smoke it!

Un huevo y ése huero, denotes a defective or worthless possession, and a kindred idea is contained in *á huevo*, at a low price.

Tanta *similitud* no se hallaba *en dos huevos*. Guzm. de Alf., p. 194.

Si no lo es, lo parece *como un huevo á otro*. D. Q., II. 27.

Parecerse una cosa á otra *como un huevo á una castaña* is said of things that bear no resemblance to each other, that have nothing in common.

Andar pisando huevos, to go with great caution.

Buscar el pelo al huevo, means to look for and invent ridiculous reasons for quarreling. Es preciso *buscarle el pelo al huevo*, como suele decirse, registrar papeles, sacar de ellos la quinta esencia de la maldad. Galdós, Mem., c. 4. Compare to this the English: 'tis very hard to shave an egg.

Al freir de los huevos, points to the time when an act or an occurrence will become known by its effects. So Sancho Panza says:

y si no, *al freir de los huevos lo verá*, quiero decir, que lo verá cuando aquí su merced del señor ventero le pida el menoscabo de todo. D. Q., I. 37.

The milk of the hen is proverbial for being something uncommon.

The Italian *latte di gallina* has two significations. It means 1) exquisite food or such as it is almost impossible to find: Sarebbono state sempre come regine, portate in palma di mano, e non sarebbe mancato loro *latte di gallina*. Fag. Comm. (T.). Gli amanti sciocchi e sempliciotti si credevan *ber latte di gallina* (live in a state of happiness). Fort. Ricc., II, 63. (T.). The Latin *lac gallinaceum* was used in a similar sense: Omnia domi nascuntur: lana, credrae, piper, *lacte gallinaceum*, si quaesieris, invenies. Petron. 38, 1.—*Ut vel lactis gallinacei sperare possis in volumine haustum*. Plin., nat. hist., praef. § 24.

Latte di gallina means 2) by a further metaphor what the French also call *lait de poule*, an egg-flip.

The Spanish *leche de gallina* is, as far as I am aware, not used in any of the above senses, being only a popular name of the plant *ornithogalum umbellatum* or Star of Bethlehem, like the German *hühnermilch*.

Brinkmann (pp. 548-9) complains that the French dictionaries do not account for the expression *fil de la poule blanche*, fortune's favorite. The French lexicographers must have known that the phrase dates back to the Latin:

Ten, 'o delicias! extrà communia censes
Ponendum, quia tu *gallinae filius albae*
Non viles pulli, natl infelicibus ovis? Juv., XIII. 140-2.

The origin of this expression, which I have not been able to find anywhere in Italian and Spanish except in Covarrubias' Tesoro (*hijo de la gallina blanca*), is probably due not to the comparative scarcity of white hens, as Brinkmann wrongly infers from Buffon's remarks, but rather to the fact that they are not as prolific as the black ones (hence the Italian *della gallina, la nera*), and that, therefore, the offspring of a white hen is looked upon as something uncommon or lucky. To this view would seem to point the part which the white hen plays in the well-known legend of Livia Drusilla, the second wife of Augustus, mention of

which is made in Pliny, nat. hist. 15, 30, 40 and Suet., Galba, 1: Liviae . . . praetervolans aquila *gallinam albam* demisit in gremium; cumque nutrirī 'alitem . . . placuisset, *tanta pullorum suboles* provenit, ut hodieque ea villa *ad Gallinas* vocetur. To this force of *gallina alba* may also have contributed the signification "bright," "favorable," which attached to *albus*, as in Hor., C. I. 12, 27: *alba stella*. In Romance, the expression seems to belong more to the literary than the popular language.

The *caldo de gallina* is proverbial for its medicinal qualities.

Dieronli desende mucho buena doctrina
Mucho mas provechosa que *caldo de gallina*.
Loor de Berceo, 6.

Cuando Dios se determina
A no remediar los males,
No aprovechan cordiales,
Ni *el caldo de la gallina*. Don. Habl., p. 520.

2. Motherly love:

Tan contenta va la gallina con un pollo como otra con ocho.

3. Feeding and voracity:

Los diablos que se despepitan por una baraja, . . . *acudieron como pollos al trigo*. F. Cab. Clem., p. 173. Este te hizo rico que te hizo el pico, *grano á grano hinche la gallina el papo*. Guz. de Alf., p. 246.—Estamos como *las gallinas* del tio Alambre, que las despertaba el hambre. F. Cab. Clem. p. 170. Italian: Far la cena del galletto, un salto e a letto.

4. Talkativeness:

Lo que están Vds. es como *las gallinas* del tio Rincon, que saltaban siete corrales por conversacion. F. Cab., Clem., p. 170.

Gallinero, a hen-yard, has received the following characteristic metaphorical meanings: a) a place where many women meet, and b) the gallery in the Spanish play-house where only women sit.

5. Vanity:

Polla-gallina, a woman pretending youth. Mujer polla-gallina que va á Villavieja. Velazquez Dict. cf. to this the Italian: gallina mugellese ha cent'anni e mostra un mese. Giusti.

6. Cowardice, helplessness and stupidity:

Muchas a de yentes mas de las que él diz;
Mas todas son *gallinas* e de flaca rayz. Alex., 746.

La mujer y la gallina por andar se pierden afna. D. Q., II. 49.—*Gallina en corral ajeno* denotes a person easily embarrassed among strangers.

From the suddenness with which a frightened covey of chickens (*pollada*) scatter in all directions *spollada* has received the metaphorical meaning of a discharge of grenades from a mortar.

Italian: essere un pollo freddo, to be very timid.

Hijos y pollos, todos (or: muchos) son pocos. Fer. Cab., Clem., p. 190. This is to say that owing to the dangers to which the young ones are exposed it is well to have many in order to save one.

De la víbora faz atriaca, et del *mal seso de gallinas* faz vedegambre. Conde Luc., p. 429.

Una gallina ciega halla á veces un grano de trigo. Fer. Cab., Clem., p. 68. This expresses the same idea as the English: Into the mouth of a bad dog often falls a good bone, to which compare the French: Souvent à mauvais chien tombe un bon os en gueule, and the Spanish: a las veces mal perro roye buena coyunda. J. Roiz, 1597.

Jugar á la gallina ciega, to play blind hen, corresponds to our "blind man's buff." Tentando con las manos, como los niños que juegan á *la gallina ciega*. Guz. de Alf., p. 276.

Italian: Felici voi galline, che non andate a scuola. Giusti.

Whereas *pollo* in Italian means a stupid fellow, it denotes in Spanish an astute, shrewd man, as in the following passage: No hay boda ni banquete donde no se halle, amigo de buenos bocados debe de ser; echadle calza, no se nos pierda de vista *tan buen pollo*. Don. Habl., p. 556.

7. Slowness:

Dia de Santa Lucia crece el dia *un paso de gallina*. Cov. Tes. (cf. gallo).

8. Uncleanliness:

Under this head may be mentioned two expressions denoting a decay of trees and of wood in general, *pata de gallina*, a disease of trees, the beginning of rotteness, and *carne de gallina*, a decay of various kinds of wood. The same idea of unsoundness lies in the Italian *andare a ruina*, to be ruined, "to go to the dogs;" to die.

III.—PAVON.

The peacock is proverbial for his beautiful tail and his ugly feet. *Hacer la rueda* to spread the tail (in the form of a wheel) has two metaphorical meanings: 1) to flatter, 2) to boast, and *deshacer la rueda* to close the tail is figurative for losing one's pride. As the tail is a cause of pride, so the ugly feet are of shame. Hence the metaphor *mirarse los piés* y *deshacer la rueda*, to see one's own defects and lose one's pride.

Si esto haces vendrá á *ser feos piés de la rueda de tu locura* la consideracion de haber guardado puercos en tu tierra. D. Q., II. 42.—Mirate los piés y desharás la rueda, Berganza. Col. de los perros, p. 332 (ed. Brockh.).—Desesperóse el poeta con la resoluta respuesta de Auristela, *miróse á los piés de su ignorancia*, y *deshizo la rueda* de su vanidad y locura. Pers. y Sig., p. 626. John Bowle, in his note on D. Q., II. 42, quotes the following instances: Mirando como el pavon la cosa mas fea que en tí tienes, luego desharás la rueda de tu vanidad. Fray Luis de Granada.

Italian: Paone molto ha a dispetto la laidezza de' suoi piedi. Brun. Lat., l. 5, c. 33.

Compare the French *faire la queue*, *faire la roue* with the sense of *pavaner*.

The Italian *guastare la coda al pavone* means to spoil a joke: *Io me ne crepava della risa, e per non guastar la coda al pavone mi ritirai verso la credenza fingendo vedere ciò che vi si faceva.* M. Bandello (Raccolta di Nov. Ital. Firenze, 1833. t. I. p. 306).

Pavonada means 1) the short, slow walk of the peacock (cf. gallo), 2) his strutting, stately walk. Viéndome tan galan soldado, dí ciertas *pavonadas* por Toledo. Guz. de Alf., p. 232.

Pavonear denotes 1) to strut, 2) to entertain with false hopes.

The turkey is the picture of pride:

Ponfale tan lleno de plumas como si fuera *pavo real*. Don. Habl., p. 509.

Me ponía mas hueco y pomposo que un *pavon indiano*. Esteb. Gonz., p. 291.

De toma un pavo á daca un pavo van dos pavos.

Pavo by metaphor means fop and *pava* an inactive, indolent woman.

Pelar la pava, to pluck the turkey-hen, is an

expression for courting, characteristic of Spanish customs:

El hablar quiere gracia

Y el cantar brio

Y *el pelar la pavia*

Quiere sentido. Lafuente, Cancion., I. 231, 3, quoted by Marin, Cantos., II. p. 416.

Náide *pela la paba*,

Porque está bisto

Que de *pelar la paba*

Salen pabitos. Marin, l. s., II. 421.

¿Será bien hecho, decía yo para mí, el venir aquí á *pelar la pava* en las barbas de las benditas ánimas que padeciendo y espirando están? Fer. Cab., Fam. de Alv., p. 24.

Compare *pelar la grulla*, of which I have not been able to find an instance thus far.

P. Meyer (Questions sur le poème de la Croisade Albigeoise., Rom. IV. 275) remarks in regard to this expression: "En catalan on dit encore maintenant *pelar la grua*, dans le sens de 'faire la cour.' Il est probable qu'il y a au fond de la locution catalane comme de celle de notre texte (*pelar la pera*) l'idée de perdre le temps."

Most likely *pelar la pava* meant at first the talk carried on by persons while occupied in the tedious work of plucking a turkey-hen, then the equally insignificant chat of lovers through the iron grate of the windows, and finally the courting itself. In a similar way, though taking a different line of thought, the German *nicht viel federlesens machen* denotes in the first place "to lose no time by picking feathers," then "not to tarry" and "to use no ceremonies."

Andallo, *pavas* expresses satisfaction with what is seen or heard.

Moco de pavo, the turkey's crest, is a) a name of the amaranth. (cf. cresta de gallo) and b) an expression for something worthless: ¿Es moco de pavo? Do you call that nothing?—Con que mucho cuidado, que mis consejos no son *moco de pavo*. Galdós, 7 de julio, c. 6.

HENRY R. LANG.

New Bedford.

HUNT'S ENGLISH PROSE.

It is not my purpose in this article to undertake a critical review of Professor Hunt's suggestive and instructive book. That task has already been accomplished, and it would be a